

Chengdu, China is the capital and largest city of Sichuan province in Southwest China.



Home to 13 million plus people, it is one of the most livable cities in China. Chengdu is also the commercial center of Sichuan province and the gateway to Tibet since the ancient Silk Road. Chengdu's unique culture is a blend of different cultures from throughout China and western Asia.

Photographer Melanie Jackson took the photographs in this exhibit during her trip to the city in March 2012.

Note: Photographs are numbered from Left to Right, beginning with the photograph below located around the corner in the Periodicals Room.



Photographs 1, 2, 3 Street scenes in Chengdu. Photograph 2 is the home of a honey beekeeper.



Photograph 4: Night Market has a great atmosphere and is a great place to pick up souvenirs. This market offers everything from embroidered silk to statues of Chairman Mao. It is important to bargain. Prices are not set in stone, and quoted

prices will be much higher than what the staff owner will accept.



Photographs 5, 6: The Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding, located on Futoushan Mountain, is a breeding center for China's giant pandas. One can see the giant pandas and learn about them through displays of panda habitats and pictures. The breeding center emphasizes education of China's endangered species and their habitat. There is a Panda Museum at the base and the museum focuses entirely on the critically endangered giant pandas. Photograph 5 is of a rare red panda. Photograph 6 is of a giant panda.

Photograph 7: Street scene in Chengdu.

Photographs 8, 9, 10: Farmers Markets
China is famous for its unique farmers markets. This isn't necessarily due to the quality of items, but rather the bizarre items one is likely to find there. When visiting Chengdu, China, farmers markets

can be found in almost any neighborhood and vary in the kinds of items they sell.

Photographs 11, 12: Jinli Ancient Street

This neighborhood is part of the old city of Chengdu; it features hotels and small stores in old-fashioned style. Its many shops, teahouses, bars, and restaurants are designed with traditional architectural styles. The workers and clerks on Jinli Old Street are all dressed in traditional Chinese costumes. This street proudly displays the customs and culture of Chengdu. In the evening is when Jinli really comes to life. The streets are lit with traditional red lanterns and the locals come out to walk the street and do some window shopping. This street is a wonderful place to get authentic local arts and crafts, and many sellers demonstrate how these items are crafted.

Additional Area of Interest:

Tianfu Square is in the center of downtown Chengdu. Prominent on one side of the square is a large statue of the former leader, Chairman Mao Zedong. Located behind his statue is the Sichuan Science and Technology Museum. Every evening at dusk, as well as at noontime, Tianfu Square attracts a lot of people to watch an

elaborate water show that bursts out from the square's fountains and is synchronized to music. In the middle of Tianfu Square is the Central Metro Station, the central hub for city transportation. It is the gateway to many of Chengdu's dynamic points of interest.



About the Photographer

Melanie Jackson, a native of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, began working part-time at Shelton State Community College in 2003 while enrolled as a student. After graduating in 2006 with an Associate's Degree in Culinary Arts, she became a full-time employee of the College. Melanie works with Information Technology/Institutional Research Services. Melanie has always enjoyed photography and even more so when in March 2012, she traveled to Chengdu, China.

*Impressions
Of
Chengdu*



by

Melanie Jackson

**Photographs
of her visit to
Chengdu, China
March 2012**

**Library Gallery
Fall 2012**